



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/714,775	11/17/2003	David A. Schneider	100201175-1	2418

22879	7590	01/28/2008
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY		
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD		
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION		
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400		

EXAMINER	
NGUYEN, ALLEN H	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/28/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JERRY.SHORMA@HP.COM
mkraft@hp.com
ipa.mail@hp.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/714,775

Applicant(s)

SCHNEIDER ET AL.

Examiner

Allen H. Nguyen

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

- This office action is responsive to the following communication:
Amendment filed on 11/08/2007.
- Claims 1-30 are currently pending in the application.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 11/08/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. With respect to applicant's argument that Claim 1 recites "a graphics application executable by a processor, the graphics application adapted to print image graphics data in a print area of a media object, the graphics application adapted to print image notation data to an extension area of the media object" that the Examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* obviousness rejection of Claim 1.

In reply: It is noted that Eisenberg '694 does not disclose the graphics application adapted to print image notation data to an extension area of the media object.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Nguyen '848. In particular, Nguyen '848 teaches the graphics application (Program modules, page 2, paragraph [0019]) adapted to print image notation data (Tab Text 14, fig. 2) to an extension area (11, fig. 2) of the media object (i.e., storing a document, storing tab text data for the document

in an object file, and processing the document, wherein the document is merged with the object file, producing an output, the output comprising the document with the tab text data from the object file; see page 1, paragraph [0007], fig. 2).

In view of the above, having the system of Eisenberg '694 and then given the well-established teaching of Nguyen '848, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system of Eisenberg '694 as taught by Nguyen '848 to include: the graphics application adapted to print image notation data to an extension area of the media object, since Nguyen '848 stated on page 1, paragraph [0002] that such a modification would ensure a need exists within the art to improve and automate the insertion of tabbed pages within a document and to provide for tab content to be located on the tabs of the tabbed pages within the document in a neat, consistent and orderly manner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-15, 17-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eisenberg et al. (US 6,452,694) in view of Nguyen et al. (US 2004/0019848).

Regarding claim 1, Eisenberg '694 discloses an image printing system, comprising:

a graphics application (software application program, col. 2, line 50) executable by a processor (12, fig. 1), the graphics application adapted to print image graphics data in a print area of a media object (the design of text and/or graphic imagery on printed articles such as flag or tab media, see col. 2, lines 44-46).

It is noted that Eisenberg '694 does not disclose the graphics application adapted to print image notation data to an extension area of the media object.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Nguyen '848. In particular, Nguyen '848 teaches the graphics application (Program modules, page 2, paragraph [0019]) adapted to print image notation data (Tab Text 14, fig. 2) to an extension area (11, fig. 2) of the media object (i.e., storing a document, storing tab text data for the document in an object file, and processing the document, wherein the document is merged with the object file, producing an output, the output comprising the document with the tab text data from the object file; see page 1, paragraph [0007], fig. 2).

In view of the above, having the system of Eisenberg '694 and then given the well-established teaching of Nguyen '848, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system of Eisenberg '694 as taught by Nguyen '848 to include: the graphics application adapted to print image notation data to an extension area of the media object, since Nguyen '848 stated on page 1, paragraph [0002] that such a

modification would ensure a need exists within the art to improve and automate the insertion of tabbed pages within a document and to provide for tab content to be located on the tabs of the tabbed pages within the document in a neat, consistent and orderly manner.

Regarding claim 2, Eisenberg '694 does not disclose the system, wherein the extension area of the media object comprises a removable tab.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitation is well known in the art as evidenced by Nguyen '848. In particular, Nguyen '848 teaches the system, wherein the extension area of the media object comprises a removable tab (i.e., a user can either insert tab texts, edit tab texts, or delete tab texts respectively; see page 2, paragraph [0021], fig. 3, Delete Tab Text 36).

In view of the above, having the system of Eisenberg '694 and then given the well-established teaching of Nguyen '848, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system of Eisenberg '694 as taught by Nguyen '848 to include: the system, wherein the extension area of the media object comprises a removable tab, since Nguyen '848 stated on page 1, paragraph [0002] that such a modification would facilitate searching by a user for the section of interest in the compilation.

Regarding claim 3, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the extension area (i.e., the tab media represent an extension of the flag media; see

col. 2, line 59) of the media object comprises a perforated tab (the tab media conforms substantially to conventional perforated tab sheets, col. 3, lines 3-5).

Regarding claim 4, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) comprises meta-data extracted from a header associated with the image graphics data (i.e., window 70 may include a window header 74 that provides information identifying the application program and/or a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet; see col. 11, lines 16-20, fig. 12).

Regarding claim 5, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) comprises user-provided data received from a user via an input device (Input devices 16 include input media for entry of user input, col. 6, lines 54-55, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 6, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the graphics application is disposed in at least one of the group consisting of a scanner, a copier, a printer, and a computer (a software application program executed in a general purpose computing system, col. 2, lines 50-51, fig. 1).

Regarding claim 7, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the graphics application (application program code, col. 6, line 65) is adapted to extract the image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) from image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40).

Regarding claim 8, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the graphics application is adapted to parse (i.e., the flag or tab media are useful in marking and indexing applications; col. 3, lines 3-5) at least one field of image meta-data to identify the notation data (i.e., the incorporation of particular text and/or graphic objects on the flag or tab media can enhance the desired communicative and organizational effects of the flag or tab media, conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 7-10).

Regarding claim 9, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the graphics application (application program code, col. 6, line 65) is adapted to display to a user for selection as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40).

Regarding claim 10, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, wherein the graphics application (application program code, col. 6, line 65) is adapted to receive from a user a selection of at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40) as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5).

Regarding claim 11, claim 11 is the method claim of device claim 1. Therefore, method claim 11 is rejected for the reason given in device claim 1.

Regarding claim 12, Eisenberg '694 discloses the method, wherein identifying image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) comprises extracting the image notation data from a header associated with the image graphics data (i.e., a window header 74 that provides information identifying the application program and/or a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet; see col. 11, lines 16-20, fig. 12).

Regarding claim 13, Eisenberg '694 discloses the method, wherein identifying image notation data (information identifying the application program, col. 11, line 17) comprises receiving user-provided image notation data (a user

input area 78 is defined for entry of text and/or graphic objects by the end user, col. 11, lines 25-27).

Regarding claim 14, claim 14 is the method claim of device claim 2.

Therefore, method claim 14 is rejected for the reason given in device claim 2.

Regarding claim 15, Eisenberg '694 discloses the method, wherein printing the image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) comprises printing the image notation data (The arrangement of the flag or tab media on the print sheet necessitates design and printing of the objects in particular areas, col. 3, lines 11-13) to a perforated tab of the media object (i.e., tabs 22 may be integrally formed with print sheet 34 and defined by perforations for detachment and insertion into tab holders or sleeves associated with a file folder. Print sheet 34 is fed through printer 20 to print text and/or graphic objects on tabs 22, col. 3, lines 3-5).

Regarding claim 17, Eisenberg '694 discloses the method, wherein identifying image notation data (identifying the application program, col. 11, line 17) comprises parsing at least one field of image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40).

Regarding claim 18, Eisenberg '694 discloses the method, further comprising presenting to a user for selection (i.e., the user carries out the browse function to select a particular file representative of an object to be inserted into area 78; see col. 11, lines 48-49, fig. 12) as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40).

Regarding claim 19, Eisenberg '694 discloses the method, further comprising receiving a selection from a user (i.e., the user carries out the browse function to select a particular file representative of an object to be inserted into area 78; see col. 11, lines 48-49, fig. 12) of at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40) as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5).

Regarding claim 20, Eisenberg '694 discloses a computer-readable medium having stored thereon an instruction set to be executed (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7), the instruction set (application program code, col. 6, line 49), when executed by a processor (12, fig. 1), causes the processor to:

identify graphics image data (identifying the application program and/or a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet, col. 11, lines 18-20, fig. 12);

identify image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) associated with the graphics image data (a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet, col. 11, lines 18-20);

print the graphics image data to a print area of a media object (i.e., printed articles such as flag or tab media can be printed with text and/or graphic objects specified by a user; see Abstract);

It is noted that Eisenberg '694 does not disclose printing the image notation data to an extension area of the media object.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Nguyen '848. In particular, Nguyen '848 teaches printing the image notation data (Tab Text 14, fig. 2) to an extension area (11, fig. 2) of the media object (i.e., storing a document, storing tab text data for the document in an object file, and processing the document, wherein the document is merged with the object file, producing an output, the output comprising the document with the tab text data from the object file; see page 1, paragraph [0007], fig. 2).

In view of the above, having the system of Eisenberg '694 and then given the well-established teaching of Nguyen '848, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system of Eisenberg '694 as taught by Nguyen '848 to include: printing the image

notation data to an extension area of the media object, since Nguyen '848 stated on page 1, paragraph [0002] that such a modification would ensure a need exists within the art to improve and automate the insertion of tabbed pages within a document and to provide for tab content to be located on the tabs of the tabbed pages within the document in a neat, consistent and orderly manner.

Regarding claim 21, Eisenberg '694 discloses the computer-readable medium (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7), wherein the instruction set (application program code, col. 6, line 49), when executed by the processor (12, fig. 1), causes the processor to extract the image notation data from a header associated with the image graphics data (i.e., a window header 74 that provides information identifying the application program and/or a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet; see col. 11, lines 16-20, fig. 12).

Regarding claim 22, Eisenberg '694 discloses the computer-readable medium (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7), wherein the instruction set (application program code, col. 6, line 49), when executed by the processor (12, fig. 1), causes the processor to identify user-provided image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5).

Regarding claim 23, Eisenberg '694 discloses the computer-readable medium (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7), wherein the instruction set (application program code, col. 6, line 49), when executed by the processor (12, fig. 1), causes the processor to parse (i.e., the flag or tab media are useful in marking and indexing applications; col. 3, lines 3-5) at least one field of image meta-data to identify the notation data (i.e., the incorporation of particular text and/or graphic objects on the flag or tab media can enhance the desired communicative and organizational effects of the flag or tab media, conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 7-10).

Regarding claim 24, Eisenberg '694 discloses the computer-readable medium (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7), wherein the instruction set (application program code, col. 6, line 49), when executed by the processor (12, fig. 1), causes the processor to display to a user for selection as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40).

Regarding claim 25, Eisenberg '694 discloses the computer-readable medium (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4,

line 7), wherein the instruction set (application program code, col. 6, line 49), when executed by the processor (12, fig. 1), causes the processor to receive from a user a selection (i.e., the user carries out the browse function to select a particular file representative of an object to be inserted into area 78; see col. 11, lines 48-49, fig. 12) of at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40) as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5).

Regarding claim 26, Eisenberg '694 discloses an image printing system, comprising:

Means (a computer readable medium, col. 4, line 7) for receiving image graphics data (the design of text and/or graphic imagery on printed articles such as flag or tab media, col. 2, lines 44-46);

Means (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7) for identifying, via a graphics application (software application program, col. 2, line 50), image notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) associated with the image graphics data (a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet, col. 11, lines 18-20);

Means (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7) for printing the graphics image data to a print area of a media object

(i.e., printed articles such as flag or tab media can be printed with text and/or graphic objects specified by a user; see Abstract);

It is noted that Eisenberg '694 does not disclose means for printing the image notation data to an extension area of the media object.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Nguyen '848. In particular, Nguyen '848 teaches means (Program Modules, page 2, paragraph [0019]) for printing the image notation data (Tab Text 14, fig. 2) to an extension area (11, fig. 2) of the media object (i.e., storing a document, storing tab text data for the document in an object file, and processing the document, wherein the document is merged with the object file, producing an output, the output comprising the document with the tab text data from the object file; see page 1, paragraph [0007], fig. 2).

In view of the above, having the system of Eisenberg '694 and then given the well-established teaching of Nguyen '848, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the system of Eisenberg '694 as taught by Nguyen '848 to include: means for printing the image notation data to an extension area of the media object, since Nguyen '848 stated on page 1, paragraph [0002] that such a modification would ensure a need exists within the art to improve and automate the insertion of tabbed pages within a document and to provide for tab content to be located on the tabs of the tabbed pages within the document in a neat, consistent and orderly manner.

Regarding claim 27, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, further comprising means (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7) for extracting the image notation data from a header associated with the graphics image data (i.e., a window header 74 that provides information identifying the application program and/or a file associated with the article in design area 72 or a set of articles carried by a print sheet; see col. 11, lines 16-20, fig. 12).

Regarding claim 28, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, further comprising means (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7) for receiving user-provided image notation data from a user (a software application that enables the end user to specify text and/or graphic objects to be printed on the article, col. 3, lines 23-25).

Regarding claim 29, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, further comprising means (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7) for presenting to a user for selection as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5) at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40).

Regarding claim 30, Eisenberg '694 discloses the system, further comprising means (a computer readable medium encoded with a computer program, col. 4, line 7) for receiving a selection from a user (i.e., the user carries out the browse function to select a particular file representative of an object to be inserted into area 78; col. 11, lines 48-49) of at least one field of parsed image meta-data (i.e., the graphic objects may take the form of colored bands, borders, or other colored indicia applied to the printed article for visible distinctiveness; see col. 7, lines 25-40) as the notation data (i.e., conveying information indicative of order, sequence, or identification; see col. 3, lines 2-5).

5. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eisenberg et al. (US 6,452,694) in view of Nguyen et al. (US 2004/0019848), and further in view of Kinjo (US 2003/0067631).

Regarding claim 16, the combination of Eisenberg '694 and Nguyen '848 does not disclose the method, wherein receiving image graphics data comprises receiving image graphics data via a memory card interface.

However, the above-mentioned claimed limitations are well known in the art as evidenced by Kinjo '631. In particular, Kinjo '631 teaches the method, wherein receiving image graphics data comprises receiving image graphics data via a memory card interface (i.e., an IC memory card and a floppy disc, may be used for recording the graphic data and the edit command data; see page 12, paragraph [0152]).

In view of the above, having the combination system of Eisenberg '694 and Nguyen '848 and then given the well-established teaching of Kinjo '631, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the combination system of Eisenberg '694 and Nguyen '848 as taught by Kinjo '631 to include: the method, wherein receiving image graphics data comprises receiving image graphics data via a memory card interface, since Kinjo stated on page 1, paragraph [0011] that such a modification would ensure a printing method which allows the user to add any image, including characters, drawings, and a still video image, to an image of a photo picture frame at an appropriate position in an appropriate style.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Schwier et al. (US 2005/0206954) discloses method, printing appliance and computer program product for printing a file on a stack of sheets containing inserted index sheets.

Hube (US 5,337,161) discloses tab image extraction and placement.

Yamamura (US 2004/0085386) discloses printing apparatus and information processing apparatus, control method thereof, program, and storage medium.

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-270-1229. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9:00 AM-6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on (571)-272-7440. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AN

01/21/2008


KING Y. POON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER